

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-30. (Canceled).

Claims 31-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An electrostatic chuck for electrostatically attracting a substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, said electrostatic chuck comprising a plurality of rod-like electrodes having shorter sides and longer sides, wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the electrostatic chuck, and longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes, said electrostatic chuck further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck, so that, when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the substrate mounting surface, the rod-like electrodes will be are disposed along an edge portion of the rectangular substrate to be treated so that one of said shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, wherein said rod-like electrodes are comprised of rod-like base materials, wherein cross-sections with respect to a vertical cut-through of said rod-like base materials are in stepped shapes, and wherein said rod-like electrodes are arranged with a predetermined gap (clearance) between adjacent rod-like electrodes, said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting

surface comprised of the rod-like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of the rectangular substrate.

35. (Currently Amended) An electrostatic chuck for electrostatically attracting a rectangular substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, including a rectangular substrate mounting surface for receiving the rectangular substrate, said electrostatic chuck comprising a plurality of rod-like electrodes having shorter sides and longer sides, wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the electrostatic chuck, and longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes, said electrostatic chuck further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck so that, when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the substrate mounting surface, the rod-like electrodes ~~will be~~ are disposed along an edge portion of the rectangular substrate to be treated so that one of the shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting surface comprised of the rod-like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of the rectangular substrate, wherein said rod-like electrodes are comprised of rod-like base materials, and cross-sections with respect to a vertical cut-through of said rod-

like base materials are arranged like roofing tiles, each having a curved convex portion on one side and a curved concave portion on the other side, and wherein each of said convex portions is arranged with a predetermined gap (clearance) between said convex portion and said concave portion of an adjacent rod-like electrode.

Claims 36-37. (Canceled).

Claims 38-39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently Amended) An electrode structure according to claim 37 for an electrostatic chuck for electrostatically attracting a substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, said electrode structure being comprised of a plurality of rod-like electrodes having shorter sides and longer sides wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the electrostatic chuck, and longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes, said electrostatic chuck further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck so that when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the substrate mounting surface, the rod-like electrodes are disposed so that one of the shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, and

wherein each of the rod-like electrodes includes high-purity ceramic that is thermally sprayed on a surface of rod-like base materials.

said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting surface comprised of the rod-

like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of the rectangular substrate, wherein cross-sections of with with respect to a vertical cut-through said base materials are in stepped shapes.

41. (Currently Amended) An electrode structure according to claim 37 for an electrostatic chuck for electrostatically attracting a substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, said electrode structure being comprised of a plurality of rod-like electrodes having shorter sides and longer sides wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the electrostatic chuck, and longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes, said electrostatic chuck further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck so that when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the substrate mounting surface, the rod-like electrodes are disposed so that one of the shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, and

wherein each of the rod-like electrodes includes high-purity ceramic that is thermally sprayed on a surface of rod-like base materials,

said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting surface comprised of the rod-like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of

the rectangular substrate, wherein cross-sections with respect to a vertical cut-through of said base materials are arranged like roofing tiles having a curved convex portion on one side and a curved concave portion on the other side.

42. (Currently Amended) An electrode structure according to ~~claim 37~~ claim 40, wherein said base materials are comprised of high-purity isotropic graphite.

Claims 43-45. (Canceled).

46. (Previously Presented) A treating system provided with a rectangular substrate stage for electrostatically attracting a substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, wherein said rectangular substrate stage comprises a plurality of rod-like electrodes each having shorter sides and longer sides, wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the rectangular substrate stage; the longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to the longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes; and a rectangular substrate is subjected to be electrostatically attracted by the plurality of rod-like electrodes; said rectangular substrate stage further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the rectangular substrate stage so that, when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the rectangular substrate stage, the rod-like electrodes will be disposed along an edge portion of said rectangular substrate to be treated so that one of the shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrode extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, wherein said rod-like electrodes are comprised of rod-like base materials, wherein cross-sections with respect to a vertical cut-through of said rod-like base

materials are in stepped shapes, and wherein said rod-like electrodes are arranged with a predetermined gap (clearance) between adjacent rod-like electrodes,

said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting surface comprised of the rod-like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of the rectangular substrate.

47. (Previously Presented) A treating system provided with a rectangular substrate stage for electrostatically attracting a substrate which is rectangular when viewed in a planar view, and which has a longer side and a shorter side, wherein said rectangular substrate stage comprises a plurality of rod-like electrodes each having shorter sides and longer sides, wherein shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes are oriented toward outside the rectangular substrate stage; the longer sides of each of the rod-like electrodes are parallel to the longer sides of adjacent rod-like electrodes; and a rectangular substrate is subjected to be electrostatically attracted by the plurality of rod-like electrodes; said rectangular substrate stage further comprising means for mounting the rectangular substrate on the rectangular substrate stage so that, when the rectangular substrate is mounted on the rectangular substrate stage, the rod-like electrodes will be disposed along an edge portion of said rectangular substrate to be treated so that one of the shorter sides of each of said rod-like electrodes extends in parallel to a longer side of said rectangular substrate, wherein said rod-like electrodes are comprised of rod-like base materials, wherein cross-sections with respect to a vertical cut-through of said

rod-like base materials are arranged like roofing tiles, each having a curved convex portion on one side and a curved concave portion on the other side, and wherein said convex portion is arranged with a predetermined gap (clearance) between said convex portion and said concave portion of an adjacent rod-like electrode,

said means comprising configuring the rod-like electrode and locating them relative to one another to form a substrate mounting surface comprised of the rod-like electrodes, which substrate mounting surface has overall rectangular dimensions with a longer side equal to or greater in length than the length of the rectangular substrate and with a shorter side equal to or greater in length than the shorter side of the rectangular substrate.

Claim 48. (Canceled).

49. (Currently Amended) An electrostatic chuck according to claim 34, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck ~~can be moved~~ are movable together, with the substrate fixed immovably to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.

50. (Currently Amended) An electrostatic chuck according to claim 35, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck ~~can be moved~~ are movable

together, with the substrate fixed immovably to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.

51. (Currently Amended) A treating system according to claim 46, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck ~~can be moved~~ are movable together, with the substrate fixed immovably to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.

52. (Currently Amended) A treating system according to claim 47, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck ~~can be moved~~ are movable together, with the substrate fixed immovable to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.

53. (New) An electrode structure according to claim 40, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck are movable together, with the substrate fixed immovably to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.

54. (New) An electrode structure according to claim 41, wherein said means for mounting said rectangular substrate on the electrostatic chuck comprises configuring

the rod-like electrodes and locating them so that said rectangular substrate and said electrostatic chuck are movable together, with the substrate fixed immovably to the electrostatic chuck, through a plurality of treatment stations.